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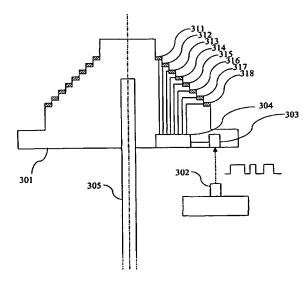
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(54) Title: OPTICAL SCANNING DEVICE



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to an optical scanning device for scanning an information carrier comprising a plurality of information layers which optical properties depend on a potential difference applied between two electrodes. The optical scanning device comprises a fixed part comprising means (302) for generating a signal comprising information about a selected information layer, and a rotating part comprising means (301) for receiving the information carrier. The receiving means comprise a plurality of contacts (311-318) for connecting the electrodes, means (303) for detecting the signal, means (304) for decoding the signal and means (304) for applying a potential difference between the contacts connected to the electrodes corresponding to the selected information layer.



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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G11B7/0037 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G11B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Α PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1,10 vol. 1999, no. 12, 29 October 1999 (1999-10-29) -& JP 11 185288 A (AOKI TAKESHI), 9 July 1999 (1999-07-09) abstract paragraph '0006!; figure 1 US 4 701 880 A (ICHIHARA KATSUTAROU) Α 1,10 20 October 1987 (1987-10-20) the whole document PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1,10 A vol. 0081, no. 92 (P-298), 4 September 1984 (1984-09-04) & JP 59 079443 A (NEC HOME ELECTRONICS KK), 8 May 1984 (1984-05-08) abstract Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "I" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the International "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the set. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the International search Date of mailing of the international search report 17 December 2004 23/12/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Holubov, C

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